

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 9-15, 17, and 19-40 remain pending in this application.

Claims 17, 20, 23, 33, and 37 have been amended to correct minor informalities. No new matter has been introduced.

As an initial matter, Applicant notes that there appear to be minor inconsistencies among previous amendments to independent claims 1, 10, 17, 20, 23, 33, and 37. In this Amendment, independent claims 1, 10, 17, 20, 23, 33, and 37 are copied from those presented in the Notice of Allowability mailed November 17, 2008, and incorporate the Examiner's amendments.

Claim 20 is amended to delete "wherein a format of the first file system is different from a format of the second file system" because this feature already appears at lines 3-4 of the claim.

Claim 23 is amended to delete "wherein a format of the first file system is different from a format of the second file system" because this feature already appears at lines 8-9 of the claim, and to change the method steps into the appropriate format for an apparatus claim. In addition, in the last three lines of the last paragraph of the claim, the amended feature "wherein one or more first file operations on the first file system are performed asynchronously with respect to one or more second file operations on the second file system" eliminates the lack of proper antecedent bases for "the one or more first file operations" and "the one or more second file operations" in the previously presented claim.

Claim 33 is amended to change the method steps into the appropriate format for an apparatus claim. In addition, in the last three lines of the last paragraph of the

claim, the amended feature "wherein one or more first file operations on the first file system are performed asynchronously with respect to one or more second file operations on the second file system" eliminates the lack of proper antecedent bases for "the one or more first file operations" and "the one or more second file operations" in the previously presented claim.

Claim 37 is amended to delete "wherein a format of the first file system is different from a format of the second file system" because this feature already appears at lines 6-7 of the claim. In addition, in the last three lines of the last paragraph of the claim, the amended feature "wherein one or more first file operations on the first file system are performed asynchronously with respect to one or more second file operations on the second file system" eliminates the lack of proper antecedent bases for "the one or more first file operations" and "the one or more second file operations" in the previously presented claim.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1417 for any fees that are deemed necessary

Respectfully submitted,

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